OIPE
FEB 20 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box ? [+]

PTO/SB/08A (10-96)
Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. Department of Commerce

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete If Known

Application Number	09/992,211
Filing Date	November 16, 2001
First Named Inventor	Peter M. Bonutti et al.
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	M. Thaler
Attorney Docket Number	**780-002-003-2**

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.[1]	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code[2] (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	6,183,443		Kratoska et al.	02-06-01	

RECEIVED
FEB 25 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Examiner	Date Considered
	5-5-03

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] Unique citation designation number. [2] See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIP Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.